



**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **WATER QUALITY AND FLUORIDATION LEVELS**

**PURCELLVILLE, Va. May 19, 2016** —The Town of Purcellville is proud to have received recognition from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for Water Fluoridation Quality for 2014 and previous years. This award recognizes the efforts of the Town to make consistent and professional adjustments of the water fluoride content to the optimum level for oral health for 12 consistent months. Consistent, high-quality water fluoridation practice is a safe and effective method to prevent tooth decay, improving oral health for community residents of all ages.

The Town is aware of information being shared that calls into question the levels of fluoride introduced into our public water system. The Town assures the public that fluoride levels in the public water system are safe, monitored daily, and reported to health officials on a regular basis.

Staff notes that the federal Department of Health and Human Services recently reduced the target levels of fluoride to a level of 0.7 milligrams per liter of water. This is a target, not a requirement, and is not an exact, achievable number with every sample taken, as there are too many variables that no water purveyor could achieve that exact number. Variables include water flow levels, usage rates, and production requirements. It is important to note that the Maximum Contaminant Level for fluoride is 4.0 milligrams per liter, at which time a required compliance action is triggered.

In the past twelve months, the average system sample has successfully achieved the recommended target stated above: 0.7 milligrams per liter of water. Some comments in the public are sharing reports from the Town's system, claiming that our fluoridation levels are too high. When reporting our levels in an annual Consumer Confidence Report, we are required to show the highest amount sampled during the year, even if it was a one-time amount. This amount – which at 1.69 mg/l did not even reach half of the maximum level mentioned previously – is not indicative of average levels or normal amounts, as demonstrated by our monthly samples.

The Town's water system consistently receives awards and recognition for its quality and safety. We are committed to providing clean, safe, and healthy water to all of our residents. Should any citizen have a question or concern about water quality, you are encouraged to contact Alex Vanegas, Director of Public Works, at 540-338-7421.

**The Town of Purcellville, Virginia**

Purcellville is an award-winning town of nearly 8,500 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 40 miles west of Washington, DC. It has been honored for its green initiatives, most recently with the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities. The Town has an elected Mayor and six Town Council members. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, Purcellville has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, entertainment, farmer's markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at [www.purcellvilleva.gov](http://www.purcellvilleva.gov).

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